



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD WARRIOR TRAINING CENTER
6901 ROSSEL ROAD BLDG 4155
FORT BENNING, GA 31905

ATZB-NG-WTC

1 November 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR Pathfinder Course Students

SUBJECT: Army National Guard (ARNG) Pathfinder Course Student Memorandum of Instruction (MOI).

1. References:

- a. AR 40-501, Standards of Medical Fitness, 29 MAY 2007.
- b. DA PAM 351-4, U.S. Army Formal Schools Catalog, 31 OCT 1995.
- c. Pathfinder Program of Instruction (POI), Headquarters USAIC, G3/Directorate of Operations and Training: ATSH-OTT, 23 July 2009.
- d. Pathfinder Course Management Plan (CMP), Headquarters USAIC, G3/Directorate of Operations and Training: ATSH-OTT, 8 May 2007.

2. Purpose:

- a. To provide Pathfinder students and sponsoring commands information about the ARNG Pathfinder Course. This MOI includes: student prerequisites, enrollment procedures, course overview, and lists the required documentation for in processing. Annexes to this MOI include the prescribed packing list.
- b. The purpose of the ARNG Pathfinder Course is to provide students the skills and knowledge required to be competent in the conduct of pathfinder operations. Upon successful completion of the course students are awarded the Pathfinder Torch and additional Skill Identifier (ASI) F7.

3. General:

- a. The Warrior Training Center Commander is the course convening authority.
- b. During the Pathfinder Course all Soldiers in attendance are considered students and will be referred to as students throughout this MOI and the conduct of the course.

4. Course Prerequisites / Enrollment:

a. Commanders should consult the above listed references in 1a. and 1b. to determine if a Soldier is eligible. Additionally, given the rigorous and academic challenging nature of this course, commanders are encouraged to select only highly qualified Soldiers to attend the Pathfinder Course.

b. Reserve, or National Guard Officers (2LT-CPT) or enlisted personnel (PFC-SFC) assigned to or enroute to a billet requiring Pathfinder skills. Enlisted MOS: 11B, 11C, 11Z, 15Q, 18B, 18C, 18D, 18E, 19D, 88M, 92F, 92Y. Warrant Officers (WO1-W03) with MOSs 131A, 180A, or 921A may attend. Enlisted applicants must have GT Score of 100 or above. Reserve Marine Corps Officers (2LT-CPT) and enlisted personnel (CPL-GNSGT) in logistics and combat arms may attend. Reserve Air Force enlisted personnel serving as combat control team/forward air controllers (SGT-MSGT). All applicants must have passed a valid physical examination within five (5) years, have a minimum profile serial of 111121, have no speech impediment, have passed the APFT within the last six months and meet the Army height and weight standards IAW AR 600-9. Applicants must have one year service remaining upon completion of the course.

c. Unit commanders must use the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) when scheduling a Soldier to attend the Pathfinder Course. The school code for the Pathfinder Course is 964A, course number 071-2E-SI5Q/011-ASIF7, school year FY XX, and the course title is Pathfinder MTT.

d. Commanders must screen prospective students for the following medical considerations:

(1) Students over 40 must be medically screened IAW AR 40-501, Standards for Medical Fitness.

(2) Students must not have a temporary or permanent profile except for shaving or corrected hearing.

(3) Students may not wear corrective lenses of any type while attending the Pathfinder Course. Only standard military, or appropriate civilian type, glasses with a black (no logo) elastic retainer band are authorized.

5. Pathfinder Course overview. The Pathfinder Course is fifteen days in duration consisting of an in-processing day, thirteen days of instruction, and a graduation day. The scope of the Pathfinder Course is to train students with the ability to provide Commanders technical expertise in the planning and executing of air movement, air assault, airborne, and air re-supply operations for rotary and fixed wing aircraft;

interface between Army Aviation / USAF units and supported commander; prepares air mission brief and air movement annex; provides technical advice, inspects and supervises the execution of slingload operations; provides trained personnel to assist with the mission of USAF combat control team; selects, marks, and controls helicopter day and night landing and pick-up zones; selects, marks, and controls fixed-wing day and night drop zones for airborne personnel and equipment; provides air traffic control and navigational assistance to aircraft within an operational site control zone; provides USAF aircraft terminal guidance for deployment of the airborne force; conducts Drop Zone Survey operations; certify in the use of Ground Marker Release System (GMRS), Computed Air Release Point (CARP), and Verbally Initiated Release System (VIRS) for rotary and fixed-wing aircraft airdrop operations.

a. In-Processing Day. During In-processing Day students will arrive and in-process into the course.

(1) Administrative documentation. The following items are required to enroll / attend the ARNG Pathfinder Course:

(a) WTC Form 100

(b) Valid proof of medical qualification. Soldiers can locate proof of medical evaluation by visiting www.us.army.mil (AKO) and click on Medical Information and clicking IMR report. This will show the Soldier medical history and the Soldier must verify they have a PHA within 1 year or if over 40 years old a physical within 1 year.

(c) Three (3) copies of student orders.

b. Graduation Requirements. Students must meet the following requirements to successfully complete the Army National Guard –Warrior Training Center Pathfinder Course.

(1) ATC/MEDEVAC: This is a general knowledge exam that tests you in all areas of air traffic control and medical evacuation procedures. It is a 25 question test. You may be re-tested one time; maximum score attainable on the re-test is 70%.

(2) SLINGLOAD HANDS ON: This is a hands-on inspection exam. You will have 4 total test stations with five loads to inspect overall. Each station is graded separately. You will receive 4 minutes at each station for inspecting the loads. You may be re-tested one time; maximum score attainable on the re-test is 70%.

(3) SLINGLOAD WRITTEN: This is a general knowledge exam that tests you in all areas of sling load instruction. It is a 25 question test. You may be re-tested one time; maximum score attainable on the re-test is 70%.

(4) HLZ/PZ: This is a general knowledge exam that tests you in all areas of Helicopter landing zone and pick-up zone instruction. It is a 25 question test. You may be re-tested one time; maximum score attainable on the re-test is 70%.

(5) DROP ZONES: This is a general knowledge exam that tests you in all areas of Computed Air Release Point Drop Zones (CARP), Ground Marked Release System (GMRS), and Verbally Initiated Release System (VIRS) drop zone instruction. It is a 50 question test given in 5 sections. You must pass each section. You may be re-tested one time; maximum score attainable on the re-test is 70%.

(6) VIRS TRANSMISSION: This is a verbal test, which tests your ability to identify and direct a rotary wing aircraft to the drop zone. You will also be graded on your ability to successfully exit door bundles over the release point on a VIRS drop zone. You may be re-tested one time; maximum score attainable on the re-test is 70%.

(7) CCP/MEDEVAC TRANSMISSIONS: This is a verbal test, which tests your ability to control your air space and your ability to call a nine line MEDEVAC. You may be re-tested one time; maximum score attainable on the re-test is 70%.

(8) FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE: This is a comprehensive examination of all skills learned during the course. You will be tested on the planning and execution phases of Pathfinder operations. You will also execute a sling load operation during the day or night. Your graded positions in the field will be the team leader and assistant team leader position. The GTA and INR positions will also be used to grade the CCP/MEDEVAC transmissions. You may re-test one time; maximum score attainable on the re-test is 70%.

c. Standards of conduct.

(1) Students will be required to perform in various roles as part of the student chain of command. Military custom and courtesy, physical fitness and military appearance and bearing are stressed and reinforced throughout the course.

(2) All students will meet the Army appearance and inspection standards. Hair will be maintained IAW AR 670-1. Females will not use metal, plastic pins, or barrettes to secure their hair. Only soft securing devices will be used or a hairnet. Additionally, males will adhere to the standards of AR 670-1 regarding facial hair. Females will not wear cosmetics in the training area during duty hours. Male and female students will ensure that fingernails will be trim and not exceeding the fingertips. The Pathfinder Course NCOIC will determine whether any items, haircuts, or other devices are faddish.

(3) The course convening authority may release Soldiers for the following reasons:

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- (a) Failing a re-test in any portion of the course.
- (b) Lack of motivation. (Students who request to not complete the Pathfinder Course)
- (c) Medical drop. Students injured and receive an LOD or evacuated to a treatment facility for an injury requiring an absence from training in excess of one hour.
- (d) Missing one hour of training.
- (e) Serious Observation Report (SOR). Students who commit an honor violation, disrespectful, disobey cadre, or commit a major safety violation are subject to immediate release at the discretion of the B Co Commander.

6. Point of contact for the ARNG Pathfinder Course is SFC Jessie M. Parsons at commercial (706) 573-2659 or email at jessie.parsons@conus.army.mil .

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1. ANNEX A (General
Instructions / Packing List)

JON W. GUTAUSKAS
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Commanding